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| APPLICATION NO.                                       | FILING DATE    | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.        | CONFIRMATION NO. |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------|--|
| 10/783,126                                            | 02/20/2004     | David C. Racenet     | 2666 CON (203-2709<br>CON) | •                |  |
| 7:                                                    | 590 03/28/2005 |                      | EXAM                       | INER             |  |
| Chief Patent Counsel                                  |                |                      | CHUKWURAH, NATHANIEL C     |                  |  |
| U.S. Surgical A Division of Tyco Healthcare Group, LP |                |                      | ART UNIT                   | PAPER NUMBER     |  |
| 150 Glover Avenue                                     |                |                      | 3721                       |                  |  |
| Norwalk, CT                                           | 06856          |                      | DATE MAILED: 03/28/200     | 5                |  |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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## **Advisory Action**

| Application No.        | Applicant(s)   |  |
|------------------------|----------------|--|
| 10/783,126             | RACENET ET AL. |  |
| Examiner               | Art Unit       |  |
| Nathaniel C. Chukwurah | 3721           |  |

| Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Examiner                                                                          | Art Unit                                        |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Nathaniel C. Chukwurah                                                            | 3721                                            |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| THE REPLY FILED 22 February 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| <ol> <li>The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:</li> <li>a) The period for reply expires months from the mailing date of the final rejection.</li> <li>b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In</li> </ol> |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection<br>Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FITTED MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) a set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).  NOTICE OF APPEAL                                                                                       |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. The reply was filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appel was filed on A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 4. Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 Chas been filed, any reply must be filed within the time per AMENDMENTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1.37 must be filed within two month<br>CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of       | s of the date of filing                         | the Notice of                          |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because (a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>(b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);</li> <li>(c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| (d) They present additional claims without canceling a NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                   | ected claims.                                   |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                   | mpliant Amendment                               | (PTOL-324).                            |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                   |                                                 | (, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) would be al non-allowable claim(s).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                   | •                                               |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7.  For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided that the status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows: Claim(s) allowed:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                   | l be entered and an e                           | xplanation of                          |  |  |  |  |  |
| Claim(s) objected to: Claim(s) rejected: <u>1 and 20-24</u> . Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| <ol> <li>The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, bu<br/>because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and<br/>was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | d sufficient reasons why the affidav                                              | it or other evidence is                         | s necessary and                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing<br>entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to of<br>showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | overcome <u>all</u> rejections under appea<br>y and was not earlier presented. So | al and/or appellant fai<br>ee 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1 | ls to provide a<br>1).                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | ,                                                                                 | •                                               |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11.   The request for reconsideration has been considered bu  The request for reconsideration is not persuasive, therefore                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | fore the rejection is maintained.                                                 |                                                 | nce because:                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s)13. Other:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                   |                                                 |                                        |  |  |  |  |  |

Continuation of 3. NOTE: The rejection with respect to claims 1 and 20-24 in the previous Office action is maintained. In claim 23, "a slot adapted for slidably receiving" is newly presented and would require further consideration and/or a further search.

LOUIS K. HUYNH PRIMARY EXAMINER